<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

Applicant: Bruno RICHARD   ) RE: Preliminary Amendment
)
) Group: Not yet assigned
Serial No.: Not yet assigned   )
) Examiner: Not yet assigned
Filed: Concurrently herewith)
) Our Ref: B-4378 619290-2
For: "PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR)
PERFORMING AN AUTOMATIC   )
DISCOVERY OF THE TOPOLOGY AND)
DEVICES OF AN INTRANET NETWORK") Date: November 13, 2001

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box New Patent Application
Washington, D.C., 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, it is
respectfully requested that the following amendments be made to
the Claims:

<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Please replace original Claims 15 and 16 with amended Claims 15
and 16, which are set forth below. (Appendix A, which is enclosed
herewith, shows how original Claims 15 and 16 were amended to
produce amended Claims 15 and 16.)

15. (Amended) An apparatus comprising program code elements for
carrying a method as claimed in claim 1.

16. (Amended) A computer program product comprising computer
program code stored on a computer readable storage medium for,
when executed on a computer, performing all the steps of claim 1.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends Claims 15 and 16 so that these claims are no longer multiply dependent in order to reduce the official fees due in connection with this application. The Applicants may elect to amend Claims 15 and 16 to make these claims again multiply dependent, or to add additional claims to this application to provide coverage similar to, broader than, or narrower than the present claims at any time during the pendency of the above-identified U.S. application.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard P. Berg
Reg. No. 28,145
Attorney for Applicant
LADAS & PARRY
5670 Wilshire Boulevard #2100
Los Angeles, California 90036
(323) 934-2300

Enclosure: Appendix A (1 page)

Appendix A

(VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE)

Please amend the Claims as follows:

15.   (Amended) An apparatus comprising program code elements for carrying a method as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 11]claim 1.

16.   (Amended) A computer program product comprising computer program code stored on a computer readable storage medium for, when executed on a computer, performing all the steps of [anyone of claims 1 to 11]claim 1.